

AMENDMENTS

To the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended). A holder for a flexible bag comprising:

a frame sidewall defining a bag-receiving area and having an upper rim, a surface projecting from the sidewall, and a locking portion defining a recess, wherein the locking portion and the recess are disposed adjacent the upper rim on the surface, and

a locking member having a bag-retaining notch therein and carried by the locking portion for movement between a release position disposed out of the recess and a locking position, wherein the notch is entirely within disposed in the recess, and below the surface, when in the locking position

the locking member having a bag-retaining notch therein accessible when the locking member is disposed in its release position and unaccessible when the locking member is disposed in its locking position.

2. (Cancelled). The holder of claim 1, wherein the frame is a open-top receptacle having an upper rim, the locking portion being disposed adjacent to the upper rim.

3. (Original). The holder of claim 1, and further comprising pivot structure supporting the locking member for pivotal movement between its release and locking positions.

4. (Original). The holder of claim 3, wherein the pivot structure includes a pivot shaft extending across the recess.

5. (Original). The holder of claim 4, wherein the notch is a first notch, the locking member including a second notch adapted to receive the pivot shaft therein.

6. (Original). The holder of claim 5, wherein the second notch includes a part-cylindrical portion and a tapered portion communicating with the part-cylindrical portion at a throat having a width slightly less than the diameter of the part-cylindrical portion.

7. (Original). The holder of claim 1, wherein the locking member includes a handle tab accessible by a user to facilitate movement of the locking member between its locking and release positions.

8. (Withdrawn). A container comprising:

an open-top receptacle having an upper rim,

a coupling portion on the receptacle adjacent to the rim,

a lid connected to the coupling portion for pivotal movement between an open position providing access to the receptacle and a closed position closing the open top of the receptacle, and

a locking mechanism carried by the coupling portion and adapted for locking engagement with an associated flexible receptacle liner.

9. (Withdrawn). The container of claim 8, wherein the locking mechanism includes pivot structure for accommodating pivotal movement of the locking mechanism.

10. (Withdrawn). The container of claim 8, wherein the locking mechanism includes a recess formed in the coupling portion and a locking member moveable between a release position disposed out of the recess and a locking position disposed in the recess.

11. (Withdrawn). The container of claim 10, wherein the locking member has a notch therein accessible when the locking member is disposed in its release position and unaccessible when the locking member is disposed in its locking position.

12. (Withdrawn). The container of claim 11, wherein the locking member includes a handle tab accessible by a user to facilitate movement of the locking member between its locking and release positions.

13. (Withdrawn). The container of claim 8, and further comprising a receptacle handle disposed adjacent to the coupling portion.

14. (Withdrawn). The container of claim 13, wherein the lid is pivotally coupled to the handle.

15. (Withdrawn). A method of supporting a flexible bag, comprising:
providing a frame defining a bag-receiving area and having a locking member with a bag-retaining notch therein and movable into and out of a recess between locking and release positions relative to the frame,

disposing a bag in the bag-receiving area with a neck of the bag draped over the frame,
gathering a portion of the bag neck and inserting it in the notch in the locking member while in its release position, and

moving the locking member to its locking position to carry the gathered portion of the bag neck into the recess to lock the bag neck to the frame.

16. (Withdrawn). The method of claim 15, wherein the moving of the locking member includes pivotal movement thereof.

17. (Withdrawn). The method of claim 15, wherein the providing includes providing a frame in the form of an open-top receptacle, and the disposing includes disposing the bag within the receptacle.